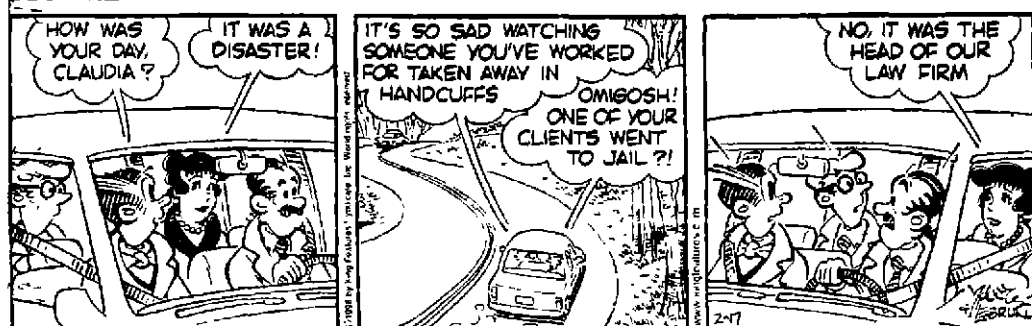
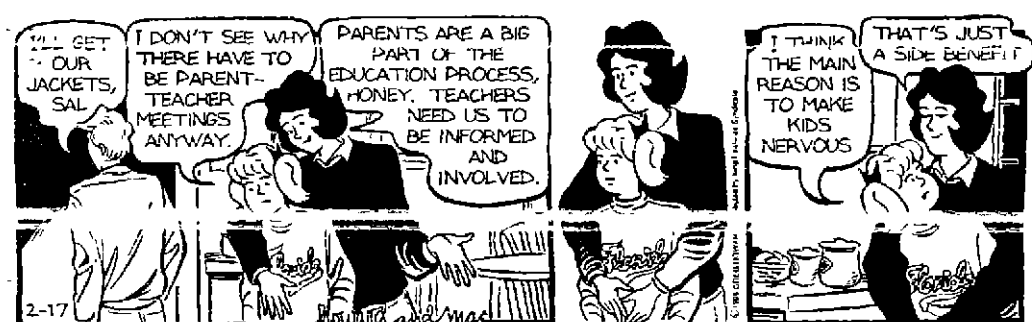


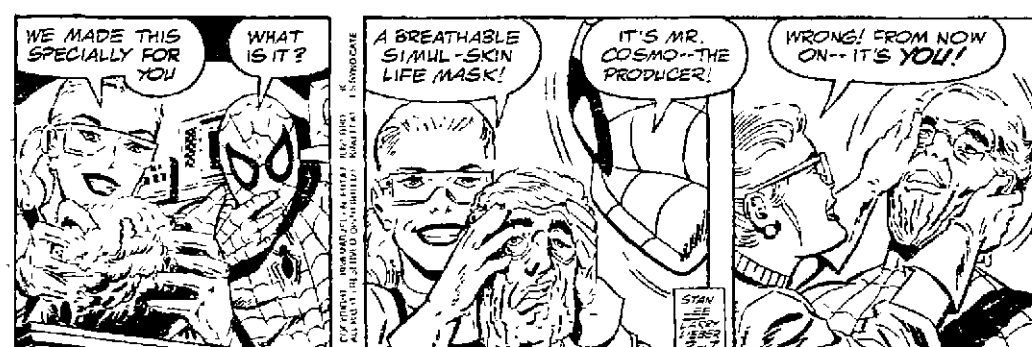
BLONDIE



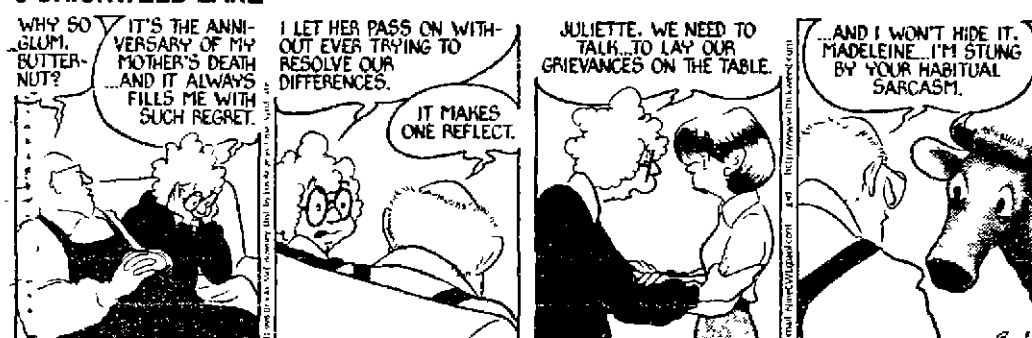
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



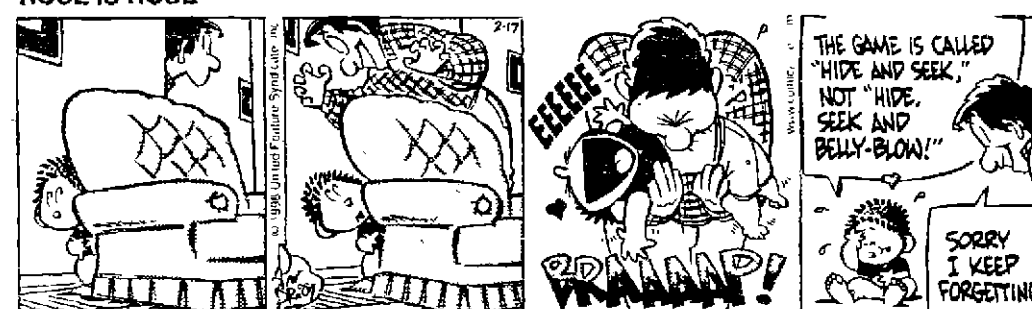
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



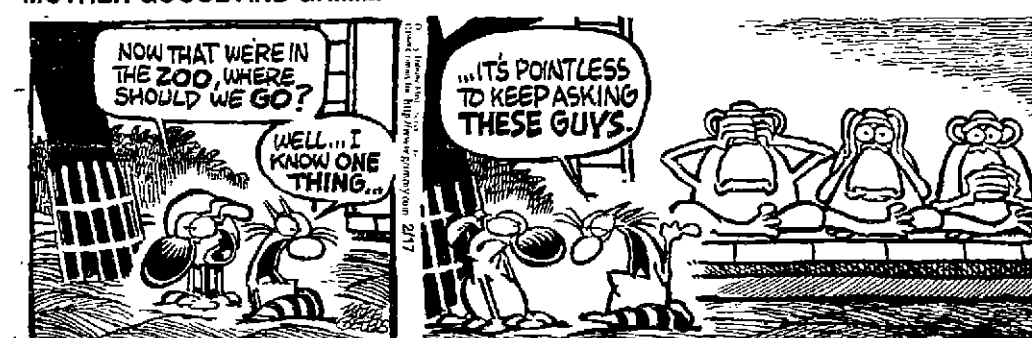
ROSE IS ROSE



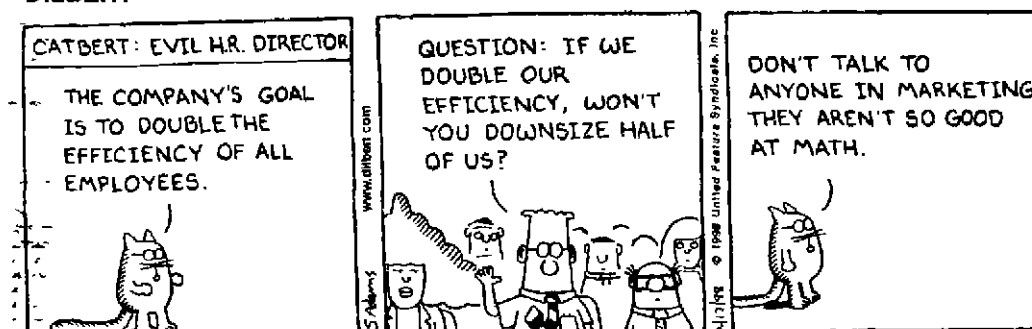
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



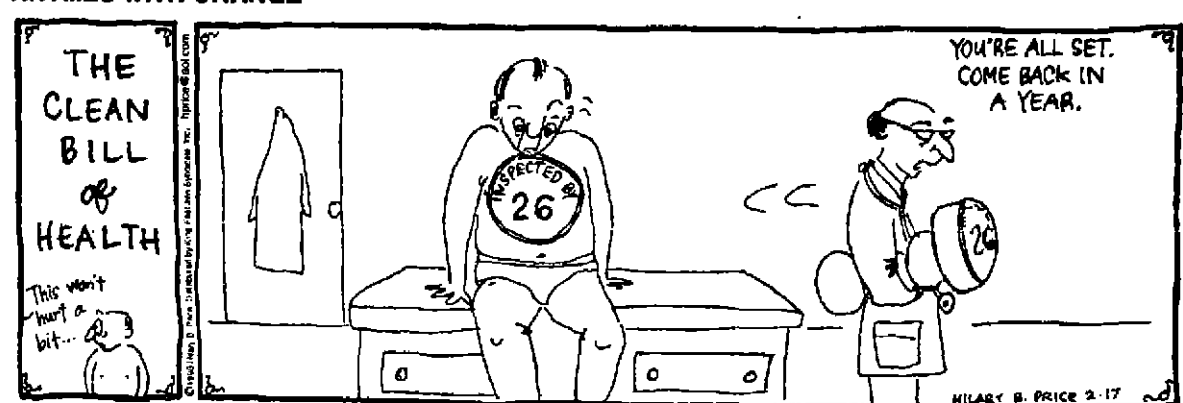
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actress Kathleen Freeman is 79.
Daniel is 74. Actor Hal Holbrook is 73. Actor Alan Bates is 64. Singer Gene Pitney is 57. Actor Richard Karm ("Home Improvement") is 42. Actor Lou Diamond Phillips is 36. Basketball player Michael Jordan is 35. Rock singer-musician Billie Joe Armstrong (Green Day) is 26. Actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt ("3rd Rock from the Sun") is 17.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

4th Letter Triple

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 105-115

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Queen -

FLJAGDAXSVSPNKI
FCAXRVSQIORLJHE
MCAKSTVSDSETRPN
LAELIZABETHAJHF
DBRYZBXPTRTIVTT
RPOGEMKOOAORIGR
EDYLABLZNEMOXWO
UTLRRRQNOHLTNLS
JAIGABEHSFOCPFN
DCAHYMETXOWIVUO
TSCRPOBNLKJIVIGC

Monday's unlisted clue: CHESS

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: HONEY MAKER

Anna Cup Mary Side
Charlotte Elizabeth Mother Size
Cleopatra Isabella Of Hearts Victoria
Consort Margaret Of Sheba

© 1998 King Features, Inc.

2/17

For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"I made an overtrick when many would fail," bragged today's South. Unfortunately, he bragged to the club critic. "Your play was as bad as that of those who failed," was the deflating response. An inexperienced player loses his game by finessing to his diamond queen, losing two diamonds, a trump and a club. Our self-anointed hero went another way in diamonds. After West won the second trump, South ruffed West's heart queen, cashed his diamond ace, and led low to West's doubleton king. Two of dummy's clubs went on South's diamonds, eliminating a club loser, and producing an overtrick. Why was South's play a reckless one? Although West was likely to hold the diamond king, West might have held three diamonds instead of two. Then South's daring diamond play would have lost to J-x with East, leaving a club guess for South. When East shifts to a low club, if South plays his 10, the game goes one down. To improve his chances in diamonds, South should cash his diamond ace after two rounds of trumps and a ruff of West's heart queen. Next he crosses to dummy in trumps to lead a low diamond. When no jack appears, South knows his best shot to avoid losing two diamonds is to duck, hoping the king is doubleton. When West's king drops and West switches to clubs, South has no reason to finesse. He wins dummy's ace and discards two of dummy's clubs, giving him a well-deserved overtrick.

NORTH 02-17-A
K 10 8 3
10 6 2;
10 8 2
A 9 4

WEST EAST
A 2 A 7 4
K Q J 7 K 8 5 4 3
K 3 K 9 7
J 8 6 5 2 K 7 3

SOUTH
Q J 9 6 5
A
A Q 6 5 4
Q 10

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

The bidding
South West North East
1 S 4 Dbl 3 A Pass
4 A Pass Pass Pass
*pre-emptive

Opening lead Heart king
low club, if South plays his 10, the game goes one down. To improve his chances in diamonds, South should cash his diamond ace after two rounds of trumps and a ruff of West's heart queen. Next he crosses to dummy in trumps to lead a low diamond. When no jack appears, South knows his best shot to avoid losing two diamonds is to duck, hoping the king is doubleton. When West's king drops and West switches to clubs, South has no reason to finesse. He wins dummy's ace and discards two of dummy's clubs, giving him a well-deserved overtrick.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0106

ACROSS

- 1 "Chapter Two" star James
5 Provide for, as a party
10 Sacred bird of the Pharaohs
14 Tough-guy actor Ray
18 Skylit courts
18 Fisherman's offering?
17 "The Twilight Zone" host
19 Lily Pons specialty
20 Small bill
21 Dec. holiday
22 New Haven Line stop
24 Scolds
26 Newswoman Shriver
27 Sing Sing inhabitant
28 Machine part fastener
31 Where to pin a pin
34 "Olympia" painter
35 Sis's sib
36 Una década has 10
37 More rational
38 — slaw
39 Docs
40 Ellington and Wellington
41 Parts of apples
42 Venomous snake
44 Swab
46 Backpacker

- 46 Defensive wall
50 Wall Street type
52 Gang's area
53 Pierre's friend
54 Stockings
55 Armed robber
56 "It's — you!"
58 The "p" of 6p
60 — in a poke
61 Turns right
62 P.L.O.'s Afafat
63 Cowboy Roy's better half

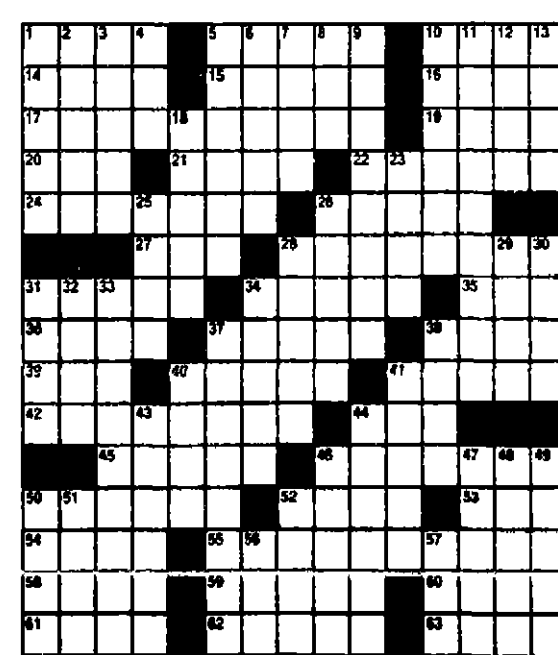
DOWN

- 1 Chocolate substitute
2 — at last!
3 Cousin of 42-Across
4 Refusals
5 Bizet heroine
6 Hammond product
7 Hall-of-Famer Speaker
8 Strauss's "Heldenleben"
9 High-quality writing medium
10 Slanted type
11 Maine resort
12 Baseball feature
13 Laud
14 Once, once
15 Tops
16 Flowing tresses
18 Porch chair craftsman

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

GENOA ISNT SWIN
OVENS STAR OHNO
REACHESAVERDICT
ANTE PUNY OATMS
NTH LIED EASE
TEC BHAM SON
OPTION AGES DAME

ELSA AINT EBERT
GET KIEV TNY
EDEN TOUS BAN
STARR ICON BRIO
ORDERIN THE COURT
LEOS ALLE INNER
DEFS MADO ANODE



Puzzle by Ed Barry

- 20 Stanley
21 Troubles
22 Aladdin's treasure
23 "The King"
24 Quickly
25 Manufacturer
26 James Bond, e.g.
27 Nightclub of song
28 Place for a finger?
29 Where Prince Philip was born
30 MTV fare
31 Promissory note in a casino
32 Designer Emilio
33 Argentine expanse
34 Cybermessages
35 55-Across, maybe
36 1948 Hitchcock thriller
37 Cans
38 Sri Lanka export
39 Expand

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS